

Message Text

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SUBJ: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: PLENARY FEB 24

TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 87

1. SUMMARY: RODIONOV GAVE BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SOVIET SEISMIC EQUIPMENT FOR LOCAL SEISMIC NET (LSN). SAFRONOV ASKED FOR AND RECEIVED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING US LSN RADIO ANTENNAS BEFORE PRESENTING SOVIET VIEWS ON YIELD LEVEL FOR ALLOWING LSN. SAFRONOV PRESENTED VIEWS ON PROBABILITY OF TELESEISMIC YIELD ESTIMATES EXCEEDING SLIFER YIELD ESTIMATES AS INDICATION OF PRESENCE OF COLLATERAL EXPLOSIONS ASSOCIATED WITH GROUP EXPLOSIONS. EXTENSIVE BUT INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION FOLLOWED. END SUMMARY.

2. RODIONOV BRIEFLY DESCRIBED SOVIET LSN AS FOLLOWS: CENTRAL COMMAND TRANSMITTER STATION ABOUT 100 METERS WAVE LENGTH, AUTOMATIC PROGRAMMED RECEIVER CONSISTING OF TRANSDUCER, RECORDER, RADIO RECEIVER, AND PROGRAMMED DEVICE. SAID MOST EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE COMMERCIALLY WITHIN USSR. TRANSMITTER OUTPUT 5 WATTS. RANGE: 20-30 KM. RADIO RECEIVER SENSITIVITY ONE MICROVOLT. POWER CONSUMPTION 0.18 WATTS. TRANSMITTER USING ONE OF THREE COMMANDS ACTIVATES PROGRAMMED DEVICE TO START, CALIBRATE, AND STOP FIELD SYSTEM. PROGRAMMED DEVICE CAN CONTROL OTHER FUNCTIONS SUCH AS OPERATING CAMERAS. RECORDING CAN BE ON MAGNETIC TAPE.

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PAPER TAPE, FERRO-MAGNETIC MEMORY, OR FIL. SYSTEM CAN

RUN FOR PROTRACTED TIME PERIODS. ALL TIMING IS INTERNAL TO FIELD STATIONS, BUT TIMING SIGNALS CAN ALSO BE SENT. RODIONOV SAID EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS IN SOVIET LITERATURE. USDEL ASKED FOR COPIES.

3. USDEL PRESENTED GENERAL DATA ON ANTENNAS (STATE 043427). INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION OF ANTENNA CHARACTERISTICS, AND SOVIETS INDICATED THEY POSSIBLY PREFERRED DIRECTIONAL ANTENNAS BE USED BUT WERE NOT CLEAR ON THIS. SAID THEY WOULD PROBABLY WANT TO RESTRICT LOCATION OF LSN TO PREVENT RADIO TRANSMISSION AND RECEPTION FROM CERTAIN SECTORS, DEPENDING ON PNE SITE.

4. SAFRONOV DISCUSSED BASIS FOR DETERMINING AGGREGATE YIELD ABOVE WHICH LSN WOULD BE ALLOWED. HE SAID SETTING THIS LEVEL SHOULD BE BASED ON PROBABILITY THAT TELESEISMIC ESTIMATE OF YIELD EXCEEDS SOME SPECIFIED YIELD LEVEL ABOVE PLANNED YIELD. ASSUMING, AS AN EXAMPLE, PRESENCE OF 200 KT COLLATERAL WEAPON TEST, HE PRESENTED RESULTS OF ANALYSIS THAT FOR 300 KT PNE YIELD THERE WOULD BE 95 PERCENT PROBABILITY AND FOR 1000 KT PNE YIELD THERE WAS 70 PERCENT THAT TELESEISMIC ESTIMATE OF YIELD EXCEEDED 1.3 TIMES PNE YIELD. (COMMENT: FACTOR OF 1.3 WAS ASSERTED TO TAKE UNCERTAINTY OF SLIFER YIELD DETERMINATION INTO ACCOUNT) 70 PERCENT APPEARS TO US TO BE IN ERROR AND SHOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 40 PERCENT. END COMMENT.) SAFRONOV SAID 70 PERCENT PROBABILITY PROVIDED ADEQUATE ASSURANCE AGAINST PRESENCE OF COLLATERAL EVENT. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION BY US WHETHER DIFFERENCE IN YIELDS REPRESENTED BY FACTOR 1.3 WOULD JUSTIFY CLAIM OF VIOLATION, SAFRONOV SAID IN SUCH CASES HOST WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DATA TO HELP CLEAR UP AN DISCREPANCIES. ASKED TO DESCRIBE SUCH ADDITIONAL DATA, SAFRONOV GAVE FEW EXAMPLES SUCH AS MORE GEOLOGICAL DATA OR RESULTS OF ANY HE CALIBRATION SHOTS IN AREA. US SUGGESTED SEISMIC NET AS SOURCE OF ADDITIONAL DATA. AFTER EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION SAFRONOV ADMITTED THRESHOLD PROBABILITY IS JUDGMENTAL ISSUE AND MUST INCLUDE MANY OTHER FACTORS LIKE DESIGNATED PERSONNEL ACCESS AND LSN EQUIPMENT. FINAL DECISION, HE ADMITTED

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FURTHER, WILL BE POLITICAL ONE. SOVIETS CONCLUDED 1 MT RIGHT AGGREGATE YIELD TO ACTIVATE LSN BUT WERE CONSIDERING 700 KT AS ALTERNATE. ADDITIONALLY SAFRONOV TIED OPERATION OF LSN AFTER EXPLOSION TO UPPER LIMIT OF GROUP PNES. SAID US POSITION NOT CLEAR AND ARGUMENTS NOT CONVINCING. TIMERBAEV MADE STANDARD STATEMENT THAT US STILL HAD NOT PRESENTED CONVINCING ARGUMENTS ON: YIELD LEVEL FOR USE OF LSN; AGGREGATE YIELD LIMIT;

REASON FOR USE OF LSN FOR 15 DAYS POST-EXPLOSION; AND
EFFECTIVENESS OF LSN AT TIME OF EXPLOSION. TIMERBAEV
ASKED FOR DISCUSSIONS TO CONTINUE. (COMMENT: SAFRONOV
DID NOT MAKE GOOD CASE FOR SOVIET POSITION, AND IN PROCESS
SHOWED THAT SOVIET POSITION WOULD LEAD TO NEED TO QUES-
TIONING SUBSTANTIAL FRACTION OF ALL GROUP EXPLOSIONS
OVER 150 KILOTONS AS POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS. END COMMENT).
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